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FM AMEMBASSY SEOUL
TO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC 6460
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SUBJECT: SEOUL - MEDIA REACTION

Subject: Media Reaction; Seoul

Climate Change

"We Welcome U.S.'s Decision to Regulate Greenhouse Gas Emissions"

Right-of-center JoongAng Ilbo editorialized (12/10): "It is fortunate that the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) announced a plan to regulate emissions of six greenhouse gases, including carbon dioxide, on Dec. 7. This is because, with this announcement, the USG has demonstrated to the world its determination to curb greenhouse gas emissions, circumventing a Congress which has been a major hindrance to such a move. This U.S. move must be good news for the Copenhagen (Climate Change) Conference because it remains uncertain whether the Conference can produce an agreement on emission reduction targets due to differences between developed and developing countries. ... In order to elicit cooperation from developing countries, developed countries, which are mostly responsible for greenhouse gas emissions, should act first. ... We also urge the U.S. Congress to change its attitude."

STEPHENS